

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 105874 TOSEC 040113
ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 INR-07 NSC-05 CCO-00
SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY PA:SACORNWELL:SAC

APPROVED BY PA:WDYESS

S/S :RPERITO

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

PA, S/S, S/PRS

-----100144Z 105723 /73

O 092357Z MAY 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 105874 TOSEC 040113

FOR CARTER FROM PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT WASHINGTON STAR EDITORIAL OF MAY 9, 1977, HEADED "PROGRESS WITH HANOI."
2. THE PROGRESS MADE LAST WEEK IN UNITED STATES-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS WAS A TRIBUTE TO GOOD SENSE. THE TWO SIDES COULD HAVE GOTTEN MIRED IN A FRUITLESS DIALOGUE ON POINTS THAT MAY NOT BE SETTLED FOR YEARS, IF EVER. LIKE TE FATE OF EVERY LAST MAN ON OUR MISSING-IN-ACTION LIST, OR A FINAL AMERICAN RESPONSE TO HANOI'S BID FOR A MULTIBILLION-DOLLAR U.S. "CONTRIBUTION" TO VIETNAMESE RECONSTRUCTION.

3. INSTEAD, THE FIRST TWO-DAY SESSION IN PARIS PRODUCED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 105874 TOSEC 040113

THE NEWS THAT WASHINGTON WILL DROP ITS VETO OF UNITED NATIONS MEMBERSHIP FOR VIETNAM, AND HANOI WILL TRY TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR MIAS. THE PROSPECT IS FOR AN EARLY EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS AND THE END OF THE U.S. EMBARGO ON TRADE WITH VIETNAM.

4. BUT THESE STEPS WERE FOLLOWED QUICKLY BY A WARNING FROM

CAPITOL HILL THAT AMERICAN AID TO THE COMMUNIST REGIME, TWO YEARS AFTER ITS COMPLETE TAKEOVER OF SOUTH VIETNAM, IS OUT OF THE QUESTION FOR THE TIME BEING. THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VOTED 266 TO 131 TO AMEND A STATE DEPARTMENT MONEY BILL, FORBIDDING EXPENDITURES EVEN "FOR THE PURPOSE OF NEGOTIATING REPARATIONS, AID OR ANY OTHER FORM OF PAYMENT"

5. WHETHER OR NOT THIS AMENDMENT IS AN UNSUSTAINABLE ATTACK ON THE ADMINISTRATION'S PREROGATIVE TO DISCUSS SUCH MATTERS WITH A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT, AND WHETHER OR NOT THE SENATE AGREES WITH THE HOUSE ACTION, THE MESSAGE TO HANOI SHOULD BE CLEAR: DON'T ASK FOR A NICKEL RIGHT NOW, PARTICULARLY IN A FORM THAT SUGGESTS REPARATIONS OR THE SATISFACTION OF AN OBLIGATION ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES, CONGRESS WILL NOT COUGH UP. PRESIDENT CARTER RECOGNIZES NO SUCH OBLIGATION. THE STATE DEPARTMENT REAFFIRMS THAT IT IS NOT OFFERING AID.

6. IT WILL DO NO GOOD FOR HANOI OR ITS APOLOGISTS TO CLAIM THAT PRESIDENT NIXON IN 1973 ATTACHED NO CONDITIONS TO WHAT THEY CALL A "PLEDGE" OF DOLLARS 3.25 BILLION IN AID, IN CONNECTION WITH THAT YEAR'S CEASE-FIRE NEGOTIATIONS. NORTH VIETNAM LATER SHATTERED THE CEASE-FIRE IN ITS ULTIMATELY SUCCESSFUL OFFENSIVE TO CRUSH THE AMERICAN-SUPPORTED SAIGON REGIME IN THE SOUTH AND UNITE THE COUNTRY UNDER HANOI'S LEADERSHIP. ANY OBLIGATION ON WASHINGTON'S PART TO FURNISH RECONSTRUCTION AID WAS SHATTERED ALONG WITH THE TRUCE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 105874 TOSEC 040113

7. VIETNAMESE LEADERS UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE HEARD ABOUT AMERICAN GENEROSITY TO FORMER WARTIME ADVERSARIES. BUT THEY SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT THE GERMANS AND JAPANESE DID NOT PROCLAIM A POSTWAR U.S. "RESPONSIBILITY" TO REBUILD THEIR ECONOMIES. (THOSE EARLIER ADVERSARIES ALSO DID NOT WIND UP AS TERRITORIAL CONQUERORS.)

8. THE QUESTION OF DIRECT AID TO VIETNAM (AS OPPOSED TO MORE ROUTINE AMERICAN ACQUIESCENCE IN AID THROUGH INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES) WILL BE DECIDED NOW BY HOW FRIENDLY THE "NORMALIZED" RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM BECOME OVER A PERIOD OF MONTHS AND YEARS. AND BY WHAT AID POLICY TOWARD VIETNAM WILL BE FOUND TO BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES. (END TEXT) CHRISTOPHER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE105874
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SACORNWELL:SAC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770163-0518
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770577/aaaacopt.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1668c397-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2591927
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS MATERIAL
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, US, VN, WASHINGTON STAR, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1668c397-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009